

is objection to the first unanimous-consent request. Whatever the Chair feels is appropriate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from New York be recognized for 3 minutes for a morning business statement, and that the Senator from Kansas, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, then be recognized for 5 minutes for a morning business statement, and that Senator SMITH be able to interrupt when he gets a unanimous consent agreement ready, and immediately following the statement of the Senator from Kansas, the quorum call automatically recur.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New York is recognized.

LEGISLATION ON TERRORISM

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, we have just witnessed one of the worst terrorist incidents against the United States since the Beirut bombing in 1983. To date, we have lost 19 young Americans in this cowardly attack that has taken place in Saudi Arabia. One of those killed was a constituent from Long Island, Capt. Christopher J. Adams, of Massapequa Park.

With this as a background, Mr. President, I implore my colleagues to move as expeditiously as we can in seeing to it that the Iranian-Libyan sanctions bill, which passed the Senate unanimously and passed the House of Representatives, 415-0, last week—a similar bill—be taken up, that we appoint conferees, and that we act on it now, because it sends a clear message to Iran and Libya. It provides our President with the tools necessary to see to it that sanctions are imposed.

We are not saying who, nor do we know who has sponsored this particular act of terrorism. But both Iran and Libya have been the chief sponsors of state-sponsored terrorism—war—against the United States, and that is the most cowardly kind of war. I think it is important for us to move now and not to hold this legislation up, because our version might be slightly different from that in the House of Representatives. We can work out those differences. I may not get all that I want.

I am for tough sanctions. I am actually for sanctions that would say, if you are going to deal with Iran and Libya and you are going to buy their oil, you are going to invest with them, then we are not going to do business with you. Other colleagues may have a difference of opinion, but we can work that out.

Let us pass this bill. Let us send a bill now that says we are going to take you on, and that we are going to give our President the ability to deal with these terrorist nations and invoke strong action. Not all of our actions should be military, but we have the ability to take on the Iranians and Libyans and to punish them for their continuous support of terrorist activities.

I hope we can pass this bill today. There is no reason for us not to do it. It passed in December unanimously here. I hope that we will act on this.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas is recognized.

THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACT DOESN'T DESERVE TO DIE

Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Mr. President, when I assumed the chairmanship of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee last year, one of my top priorities was to bring to fruition a comprehensive reform of our many job training programs.

My colleague in that effort on the other side of the aisle is the Senator from Nebraska, Senator KERREY, who has been a stalwart supporter of this effort. We both felt strongly there was much that could be done that would significantly improve and enhance Federal job training programs.

Over the past several years, the General Accounting Office, the inspector general, the Department of Labor, and others, have churned out report after report documenting both the proliferation of Federal job training efforts and the inability of these programs to show results.

The roughly \$5 billion which the Federal Government invests in these programs is small potatoes in our annual trillion-dollar-plus budget. The work of these programs are not front-page news, and the issues they raise are probably regarded as boring and tedious.

Mr. President, nevertheless, the Workforce Development Act, which was approved by a vote of 95 to 2, offered an ideal opportunity to find ways to make Government work better.

The legislation was designed to achieve four basic objectives:

One, to consolidate overlapping and narrowly focused Federal categorical programs to allow for the development of statewide systems to address the needs of all individuals.

Two, to provide the States with sufficient flexibility to focus trading resources on their areas of greatest need, while preserving the core activities supported by the Federal Government in the past.

Three, to develop true partnerships among the educators who provide the academic foundation, the trainers who provide the technical expertise, and the business people who create the jobs for which individuals are being trained.

Four, to shift the focus of accountability from one which looks only at

the front end—"Are Federal regulations being followed to the letter?"—to one which looks at the results—"Are training program participants getting jobs?"

Throughout the process in committee, on the floor, and in conference, various accommodations were made in the inevitable process of resolving competing concerns. Some programs which I had believed were appropriate for consolidation, for example, were dropped out of the bill. Many of the changes made to the bill I originally introduced were not things which I would have preferred.

Nevertheless, these revisions were made at the margin. As we near the conclusion of the conference, which has been ongoing since October, the core objectives of the bill remain intact and remain worthy of the support they received in overwhelming votes in both the House and Senate.

Specifically, the bill consolidates 80 separate programs into a work force and career development block grant to the States. Consolidating these programs will permit the States to develop cohesive systems, with employment and training activities being delivered on a one-stop basis.

Second, the bill assures a foundation of support for the four basic activity that have traditionally received Federal support: employment and training; vocational education; adult education; and services for at-risk youth. At the same time, the bill permits each State to supplement the activities which it needs most, by reserving 25 percent of the funds in a flex account to be distributed among the four core activities in the way chosen by the State.

Third, it creates real incentives for cooperation and coordination among educators, trainers, and the business community by providing a collaborative process both for the development of a single State plan and for decisionmaking regarding the allocation of flex funds.

Finally, the bill gets rid of thousands of pages of statutory and regulatory prescriptions and allows State and local officials to concentrate on results. States must establish benchmarks—a process which entails setting specific goals their programs are supposed to achieve. Incentives and sanctions will be based on performance relative to the benchmarks.

Unfortunately, the opportunity to achieve these goals is on the verge of slipping from our grasp. If this bill dies, it will not do so because it is bad policy. Rather, it will have fallen victim to two disparate but powerful political agendas.

On the one hand, many Democrats see the demise of this bill as an opportunity not only to preserve the status quo and the individual interests it protects, but also to use it as fodder in the sound bites leading to the November elections.

Despite recent allegations to the contrary, this legislation has not been an